EXHIBIT B

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1: J Pain Symptom Manage. 2004 Mar;27(3):196-205.

ELSEVIER SCIENCE FULL-TEXT ARTICLE

A comparison of five pain assessment scales for nursing home residents with varying degrees of cognitive impairment.

Closs SJ, Barr B, Briggs M, Cash K, Seers K.

School of Healthcare Studies, Baines Wing, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9UT, United Kingdom.

The aim of the study was to compare five different pain assessment scales for use with people with different levels of cognitive impairment who resided in nursing homes. The verbal rating scale, horizontal numeric rating scale, Face pictorial scale, color analogue scale and mechanical visual analogue scale were presented in random order to 113 residents. Cognitive impairment was assessed using the Mini-Mental State Examination. The use of the verbal rating scale was the most successful with this group, completed by 80.5% overall, and 36% of those with severe cognitive impairment. Repeated explanation improved completion rates for all the scales. Consistency betwee scores on the five scales was good for those with none to moderate cognitive impairment and poor for those severely impaired. This study showed no difference in pain scores according to cognitive status.

PMID: 15010098 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

1: J Pain Symptom Manage. 2001 Jun;21(6):450-5.

ELSEVIER SCIENCE FULL-TEXT ARTICLE

Utilizing pain assessment scales increases the frequency of diagnosing pain among elderly nursing home residents.

Kamel HK, Phlavan M, Malekgoudarzi B, Gogel P, Morley JE.

Division of Geriatric Medicine, Saint Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO 63104, USA.

To study the effect of utilizing a combination of three easily-administered pa assessment instruments on the frequency of diagnosing pain among elderly nursing home residents, a cross-sectional study was conducted at two academic skilled nursing facilities: an 899-bed facility in Long Island, New York, and a 201-bed facility in Maryland Heights, Missouri. A total of 305 randomly selected elderly (>or= 60 years) subjects were enrolled in this stud The study involved medical records abstracting and patient interviews. Pain was assessed in 150 (49%) subjects using the question "Do you have pain?" (Group 1). In the remaining 155 (51%) subjects (Group 2), pain was assessed using three pain assessment instruments: the visual analog scale, the behavior (faces) scale, and the pain descriptive scale. The overall frequency diagnosing pain was greater in the subjects in Group 2 compared to the subjects in Group 1 (30% vs. 15%, $P < 0.01$). Using the three pain assessmer scales greatly increased the frequency of diagnosing pain among the old-old (>or= 85 years) residents (32% Group 2 vs. 6% Group 1, $P < 0.001$). The frequency of diagnosing pain among cognitively impaired residents showed similar trend (16% Group 2 vs. 10% Group 1, $P = 0.2$). These data indicate that using three easily-administered pain assessment scales increased the frequency of diagnosing pain among nursing home residents.

PMID: 11397602 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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